10-24-07

WWW.LAVC.EDU WWW.LAVALLEYSTAR.COM

# VALLEY STAR

THE INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF LOS ANGELES VALLEY COLLEGE

VOLUME 67, ISSUE NO. 6 OCTOBER 24, 2007 IT'S *YOUR* NEWSPAPER

## All Students Need Apply

BY SARAH BISHOP
OPINION EDITOR

With the Nov. 30 deadline for transfer applications looming, many Valley College students feel the pressure of the approaching date.

Students can take advantage of several resources on campus to get their applications in quickly and accurately. Valley College's Career/Transfer Center and counseling office are both available to answer questions because the application process often confuses or overwhelms students.

When asked what information she needed, Nune Nargazyan, a political science major waiting in the counseling office said, "Everything. How to do the applications, when they're due, the personal statement, and [I want to] ask my counselor which classes I still need to take."

According to counselor Reggie Reed, she has the right idea. "We help the general population, so students can come in with all types of questions. If you want answers to specific questions or detailed information, and you want a counselor to spend a good thirty minutes with you, you need to make an appointment."

Reed explained that one of the differences between the counseling office and the Career/Transfer

see *'Application'* page 2

PAUL OLDEN, PHOTO EDITOR / VALLEY STAR

**DRIVING TOWARD TROUBLE**-Evidence of the many Southern California wildfires is visible while driving north on I-5 last Sunday. The smoke from the Santa Clarita and Auga Dulce fires billows over the freeway. At one time this week, 17 fires consumed land and homes from Malibu to Lake Arrowhead.

## Schwarzenegger Terminates Textbook Affordability Act

***Citing its narrow focus, Governor Schwarzenegger vetoed the Textbook Affordability Act.***

BY ASTRID SEIPELT
STAFF WRITER

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger has vetoed Senate Bill 832, which would have immediately reduced textbook prices for students.

Instead, the governor chose to sign Assembly Bill 1548, The College Textbook Transparency Act. The signed bill was sponsored by the Association of American Publishers.

The College Textbook Transparency Act will go into effect in 2010, and provides faculty members with lists of changes between one edition of a text and the next. The signed act differs from SB 832, The Textbook Affordability Act, as it does not provide the prices of books unless a request is submitted. SB 832 would have made price listings mandatory.

"This bill focuses strictly on textbook publisher policies and fails to recognize that the affordability of textbooks is a shared responsibility among publishers, college bookstores and faculty members," Schwarzenegger said in a letter to the California State Senate.

In a statement released by the California Student Public Interest Research Group on Oct. 15, the organization voiced its disappointment in Gov. Schwarzenegger for failing to take action on high book prices.

"SB 832 sought to correct the imbalance in the market by requiring publishers to disclose the price of a book to professors up front…[By not signing SB 832] the Governor failed to heed the research and recommendations of the academic community."

Zeke Reyes, president of the Valley College chapter of CALPIRG, one of the sponsors of the bill, described the reaction of the organization's members when the Textbook Affordability Act was vetoed.

"I was in the [CALPIRG] office downtown when we got the call that it was vetoed," said Reyes. "The whole office just groaned…the bill that was signed isn't going to help anyone right now."

According to a press release

see *'Veto'* page 2

## *Health Center Encourages Self-Exams*

***The Health Center stresses that it's never too early to educate students about breast cancer.***

BY ELIZEDA BELTRAN
STAFF WRITER

The Student Health Center joined other clubs in Monarch Square during Club Day for October's Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Representatives offered Valley College students information to get them thinking about the disease through presentations and opportunities to sign up for breast exams.

"The goal is to teach the younger generation to be proactive about breast cancer," said Sonia Nodal, a physician assistant at the Student Health Center. "They should be informed as young as possible to be familiar with their bodies."

According to the American Cancer Society, approximately 240,500 women in the United States will develop breast cancer this year, and almost 40,500 will die from it. Although it is much more likely to occur to women over 40, breast cancer can happen at any age.

At the Health Center's table, Nodal taught interested students how to go about self-examinations using the clock method on a prosthetic model. Students were asked to place their hand on the model and describe the various lumps, knots, and thickenings inside the breast replica.

see *'Awareness'* page 2

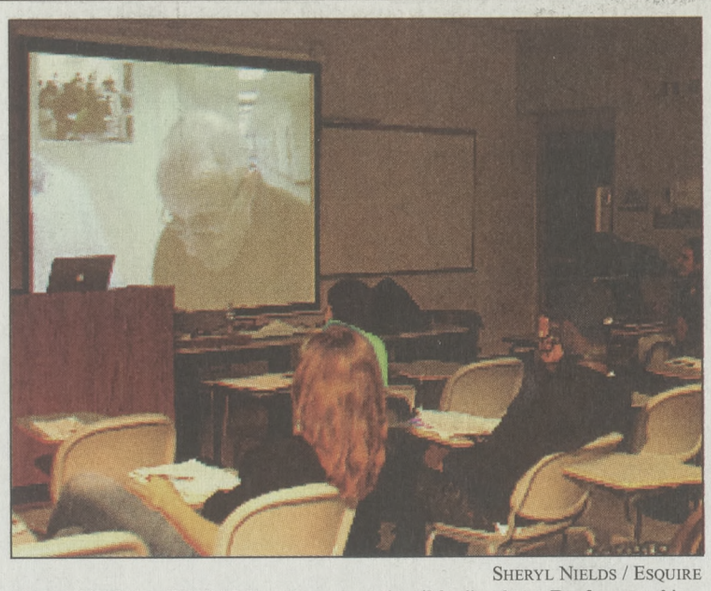
## Pay No Attention to the Man Behind the Curtain

BY JAMES BENNETT
STAFF WRITER

Substitute teachers beware: your jobs are at stake. The days of professors missing classes due to travel are at an end. At least they are for Valley Media Arts professor Alan Sacks. Sacks, a working producer, conducted his classes remotely while producing "Camp Rock" for the Disney Channel.

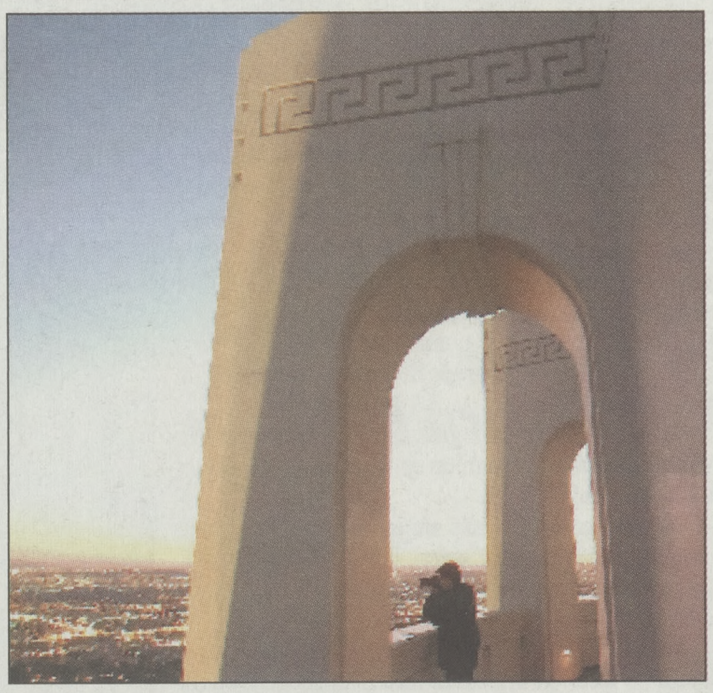
Professor Sacks is larger than life. He speaks freely, gesticulates wildly, and the diameter of the head is 10 feet wide when projected on the screen at the front of the classroom.A Digital Video (DV) camera mounted at the front of the class allows him to see his pupils, while another DV camera attached to his laptop on set allows his pupils to see his pupils.The wizard appeared on the screen for his interview; "I wanted to continue teaching the class. I was making a show, so what better way to demonstrate what I'm teaching?" Professor Sacks' voice boomed from the speakers, his eyes moving around the room surveying the class from afar. "What's really interesting is this is a class on media and media convergence; and here we are utilizing this technology." He wasn't that far away,

see *'Sacks'* page 2



SHERYL NIELDS / ESQUIRE

**HIGH TECH LECTURE** - Broadcasting/Media Arts Professor Alan Sacks teaches his class remotely via AIM video chat. He simulated how he can conduct his class anywhere in the world.



PAUL OLDEN / VALLEY STAR

**QUITE A VIEW**-The view of Los Angeles from the Griffith Park Observatory can be a breath taking experience. The observatory is just one place to visit for less than $20. For more, see Valley Life.

## *Valley Documentary PatriotS Act pummels the competition*

BY JAMES BENNETT
STAFF WRITER

The Valley College Media Arts department received praise, features, and awards from numerous film festivals and international competitions for the documentary film "PatriotS Act. . .PEACE PRESS." "PatriotS Act" pays homage to the prolific collective of anti-war printers who thrived through adversity and government persecution for two decades. The film's crew consisted exclusively of Valley students under the leadership of Valley Cinema and Media Arts professor Joseph Daccurso who wrote, directed, and produced the piece.

The documentary competes with and is featured alongside professional documentaries from industry titans such as CNN, PBS, and National Geographic. Since its July 2006 premier the film has received Best of Festival – Documentary at the 17th annual Berkeley Video and Film Festival; Honorable Mention – Social Issues Documentary at the 54th annual Chris Awards, and the Platinum Remi – Documentary award at the 40th annual World Fest Houston. "It felt really good to be recognized, and to see it on the big screen," commented Anika Marinelli, who served as a videographer, editor, and writer on the piece. "It was very well received, and considering it was a student film submitted as a professional project, I was very proud."

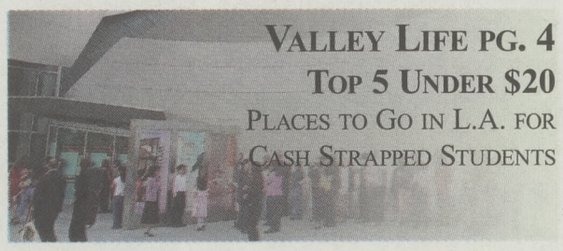
"One of the challenges was, how do we make not only a historically accurate exploration of the subject matter," Daccurso ruminated, "but also make it visually interesting to an audience that may not have lived through that time? We wanted it to be a learning experience for today's students."

It all began when former Valley art department faculty member Henry Klein walked into professor Daccurso's office and asked, "Would anyone like to make a small oral history about the Peace Press?"

Little did he know his humble request would beget a monster 95-minute 109-page –script, professional-quality, internationally-shown documentary film. The piece features more than 700 graphics, 300

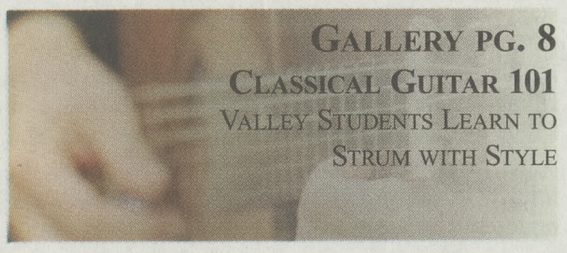
see *'Film'* page 2

OPINION PG. 3
NOW FOR THE NEWS?
STEWART AND COLBERT OFFER A SATIRICAL ALTERNATIVE



VALLEY LIFE PG. 4
TOP 5 UNDER $20
PLACES TO GO IN L.A. FOR CASH STRAPPED STUDENTS

SPORTS PG. 6
HOMECOMING
MONARCHS LOSE CLOSE HOMECOMING GAME



GALLERY PG. 8
CLASSICAL GUITAR 101
VALLEY STUDENTS LEARN TO STRUM WITH STYLE

## 'Veto'

*continued from page 1*

by CALPIRG, the organization hopes that "Over time, the Governor rethinks his position and reconsiders similar efforts in the future.

Biomedical physics major Quoya Flack, 23 said that she doesn't own one of her $200 textbooks because she couldn't afford it.

"I feel like Schwarzenegger is being insensitive to students," said Flack. "The new bill doesn't start until 2010, what does that do for me now?"

Glen Paget, a Valley math professor also voiced his disappointment.

"The governor's actions are detrimental to both faculty and students," he said. "I hope that if the bill goes to him again, so he has another chance to sign it."

Sen. Ellen Corbett, who wrote the Textbook Affordability Act, was not available to comment.

## 'Sacks'

*continued from page 1*

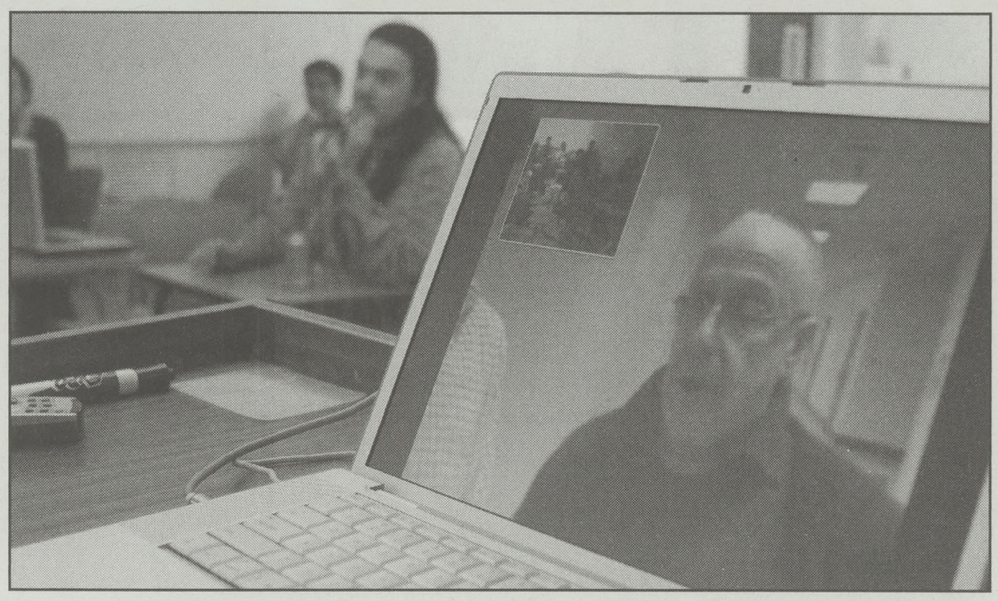
actually, he was merely out in the hall giving the "Valley Star" a demonstration of the technology. He explained the simplicity of the setup. The two computers would connect via AOL Instant Messenger's video chat while students passed a simple microphone to whoever wanted to speak.

Sacks has done this once before. Several years ago, while on set in Toronto he conducted his class remotely, but at that time consumer media software wasn't up to par so he used the facilities and bandwidth provided by the University of Toronto. This time around, thanks to better encoding and capture software, Sacks streamed his lecture while immersed in the hustle and bustle of on-set activity. Erick Baels, a 25-year-old media arts student enjoyed the lecture: "We actually got to talk to people on the set; not to mention see people in the background."

"It's the fieldtrip of tomorrow," commented media arts/ cinema student Waleed Rahman. Nick Brown said the lecture was "the greatest learning experience [he's] ever had in the classroom."

Sacks employed remote teaching in all his class sections. He is optimistic about the future of remote lecturing; "this technology is going to be widely implemented" he said with confidence. Speculating about the future of this technology is fascinating; perhaps classrooms will be fitted with powerful, centrally located microphones to eliminate the need to pass the microphone around. More advanced cameras in the classroom could track who's talking and focus on them automatically.

If Sacks is right and remote lecturing is widely implemented students can look forward to a slew of academic benefits. Advantages like a more streamlined process, guest speakers from around the globe, and a syllabus that's relevant for more than a week.



JONATHAN GIBBY / VALLEY STAR

**DISTANCE IS NO PROBLEM -** Students in a classroom at Valley College listen as Media Arts Professor Allan Sacks teaches his classes from Vancouver, Canada.

VALLEY STAR STAFF

**EDITOR IN CHIEF**
KRISTEN BECKER

**PHOTO EDITOR**
PAUL OLDEN

**VALLEY LIFE/ SPORTS EDITOR**
JOSH SPENCE

**OPINION EDITOR**
SARAH BISHOP

**COPY EDITOR**
DIANA QUEZADA

**LAYOUT EDITOR**
BOB TEICHMANN

**ONLINE EDITOR**
BRAD TAYLOR

**STAFF WRITERS**
DENNIS ALAMINA
ELIZEDA BELTRAN
JAMES BENNETT
OSCAR CHICAS
KIM DURAN
SHIELA KOOCHAK
MARISSA MEYER
JESSICA RAWSTRON
ASTRID SEIPELT

**STAFF PHOTOGRAPHERS**
JONATHAN GIBBY
JUAN ROBLES
GRACIELA SALGADO
VAN TRIEU

**ADVERTISING MANAGER**
CHIP RUDOLPH

**ADVISERS**
BILL DAUBER
ROD LYONS

TheValleyStar@yahoo.com
www.LAValleyStar.com
(818) 947-2576

The Valley Star is published by students of the Journalism and Photography classes as a learning experience, offered under the college journalism instructional program. Editorial and Advertising Offices are located at 5800 Fulton Avenue, Valley Glen, CA 91401, (818) 947-2576. Under appropriate state and federal court decisions these materials are free from prior restraint by virtue of the First Amendment to the United States Constitution. Materials published herein, including any opinions expressed and advertisements should not be interpreted as the position of the Los Angeles Community College District, the college, or any office or employee thereof. **Editorials** are the opinion of the editorial board only and do not necessarily represent those of the entire staff. **Columns** are the opinion of the writer. **Letters** are the opinions of the reader.

## Film'

*continued from page 1*

pieces of distinct artwork, 400 historical visuals, and exclusive 8 and 16mm footage provided by Peace Press alumni.

Founded in 1967 by UCLA physics grad student Jerry Palmer, the Peace Press worked round the clock to create anti-war, pro-labor, and otherwise progressive works of politically charged art to be printed and sold at, or slightly above cost. While the press barely made enough profit to put dinner on the table for its employees, is accomplished its goal of pushing a progressive agenda by facilitating the proliferation of anti-war, and often anti-establishment ideas.

The Peace Press worked with a diverse clientele, including the Black Panther Party, Timothy Leary, the United Farm Workers, and even the godfather himself, Marlon Brando. Flagged as leftists by the FBI, members of the Peace Press often found their tires slashed, their trash rummaged, and homes spied on by the FBI or local police. "There are people out there that would happily throw us in the slammer just for speaking" commented a former Peace Press member "the Peace Press arose to combat the kind of oppression."

Most of the visual content featured in "PatriotS Act" was provided by The Center for the Study of Political Graphics. Founded in 1988, the Center offers the largest collection of post-World War II political posters in the U.S. and is open and free to the public. "PatriotS Act" also drew from Valley's archives, pulling articles, drawings and photos from Vietnam-era issues of the "Valley Star" and "Crown" magazine.

The film is finishing its festival circuit within the next couple months. It is unknown whether or not the film will return to the Valley College theatre.

## *Campus Crime*

BY SHEILA KOOCHAK
STAFF WRITER

**Traffic Collision**

A vehicle struck the electrical box by the spike strip on the corner of Ethel and Hatteras on Oct. 15 around 3 p.m. No injuries were reported.

**Vandalism**

A urinal stall in the Cafeteria restroom was vandalized between Oct. 18 and 19. No further information was available.

**Campus Incidents**

On Oct. 18, a student was caught looking at pornography on a school computer in the Lion's Den.

A gas valve was opened in Chemistry room 100 at approximately 2 p.m. on Oct. 17. No further information was available.

**Lost Property**

An I-Pod was lost in the cafeteria on Oct. 15 between 12:35 and 12:45 p.m.

A cell phone went missing in the Math Science building Oct. 16 around 8:40 a.m.

**Student Injury**

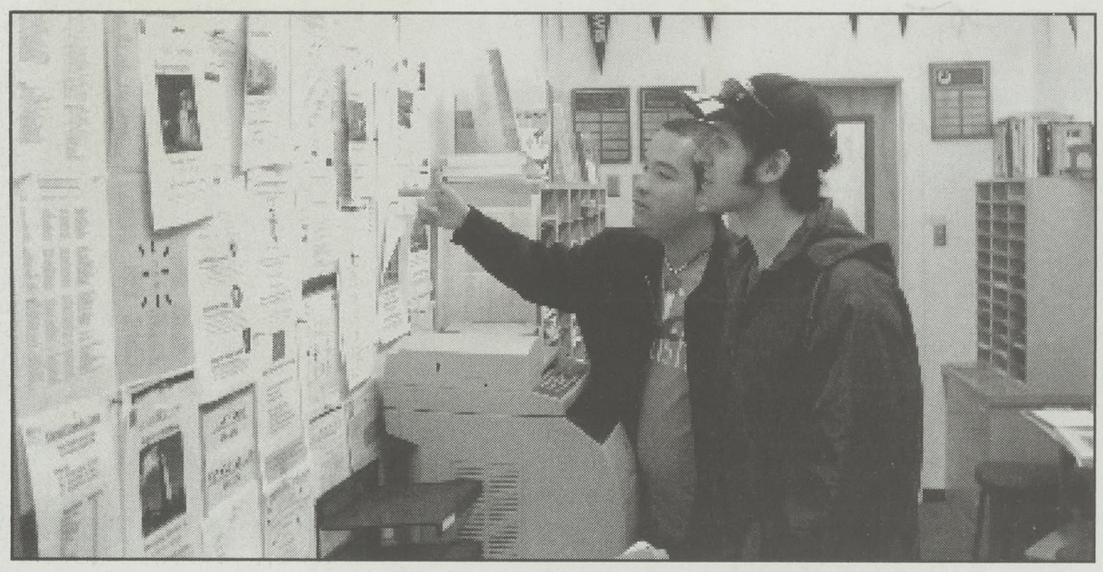
A student was injured Oct. 16 at approximately 8:30 a.m. when a cable on a back extension machine in the fitness center broke. No further information was available.

**Petty Theft**

Tools were stolen from a contractor's toolbox in the South Gym between Oct. 11 and 17.

**Visitor Injury**

A visitor possibly fractured their ankle Oct. 18 in the Music Building.



SCOTT MITCHELL / SPECIAL TO TEH STAR

**CHECKING OUT THEIR FUTURE-**Valley College students Ruben Yanez, right, and Emmanuel Montes look over the information provided at the cardeer transfer center on campus.

## 'Application'

*continued from page 1*

Center was the need for an appointment. Because idiosyncrasies abound, Reed stressed that taking time each semester to sit down with a counselor and make sure the student is on track allows for an easier transition into a four- year university.

"The counselor can give you detailed answers if you make an appointment," Reed said. "[Seeing a counselor] prepares you for the application process, you'll understand when it asks you if you did your oral communication, your mathematics, or your written communications. You'll know what that means."

Dr. Synthia Saltoun, director of the Career/ Transfer Center, helps students with questions that are specific to the applications themselves. "They often don't know that they need to apply online," Saltoun said. "That the online [application] can't be submitted until Nov. 1, but that [the applications] are up right now because they take a while to complete or that you don't have to do the college application all at once, you just have to save it after you complete each section. You can go back to it at any time from any computer."

She explained that the sooner a student begins filling out the general applications for the UC and CSUs and the more resources he or she uses, the better. She recommends that students looking to transfer in fall of 2008 speak with one of the center's representatives as well as a general counselor and a representative from the university they want to transfer to.

Reed said, "We can never guarantee 100 percent that you're going to that school, but filling [the application] out correctly, knowing what classes to take, the correct classes, is very important for the application process. You could be missing the golden four, you may be missing your math or English, that jeopardizes your opportunity to transfer greatly."

The more information students can gather about the school they want to attend, the more successful they are likely to be. At the Career/ Transfer Center, they have details that may be difficult for students to find on their own.

"UC closes Nov 30 for fall 08, and CSU priority application deadline also closes Nov 30, that means that after Nov. 30 different CSUs and different departments may or may not be open," said Saltoun. "Certain schools that may be open past Nov.30 may have impacted majors, so you could apply to the school but not get into the major and we have a list of the impacted majors for fall 2008-2009."

By using the resources on campus, the application process should be less stressful because students will know what is expected of them.

"I filled out the application and I was accepted," said Marcus Nash, a theater major transferring to Cal State Northridge. "[The college representatives] told us everything we needed to do to fill it out and it was pretty easy." He smiled and said, "I'm looking forward to going."

## 'Awareness'

*continued from page 1*

When students do breast self-exams and find lumps, they should ask three questions. What is the shape of it? What is the texture? And does it move?" said Nodal.

According to the American Cancer Association, most breast lumps are not cancer, especially in young women. Some lumps are commonly attributed to fibrocystic changes, benign changes in the breast. Cysts, for example, are fluid-filled sacs that are movable and tender to the touch, and are benign. Malignant lumps usually appear as hard, unmovable lumps with hard edges. Regardless, all changes in breast tissue should be reported to a doctor.

Students also received gifts and a chance to enter a raffle as incentives for signing up for a free breast check at Valley's Health Center.

"A lot of young patients are intimidated when they come in [to the Health Center], but once they get that one-on-one privacy, they open up and [ask] their questions," said Nodal.

Valley student Lisa Smith found the presentation helpful. "I received important information about breast cancer, information I can pass on to my younger sister."

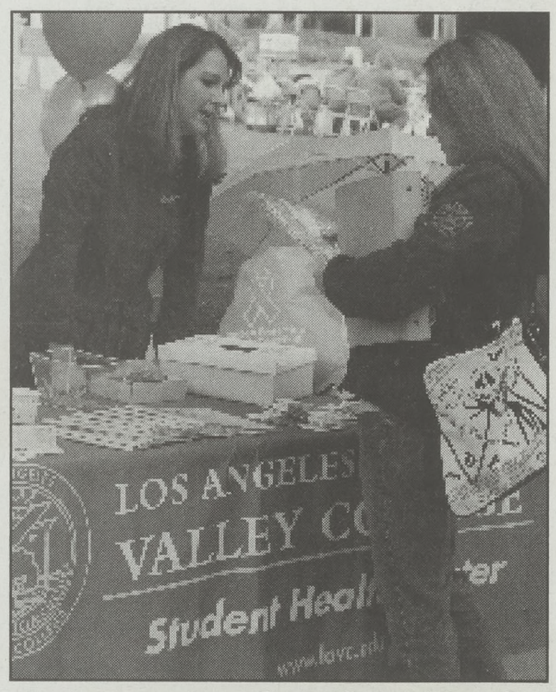
But awareness takes a whole different meaning for women like Valley's Vice President Yasmin Delahoussaye, a cancer survivor.

"Some women have this false sense of security that it is never going to happen to them," Delahoussaye said. I never though it would happen to me. To catch it in the early stage gives women a chance of it being cured."

"Valley has a student age population of 20 to 24 year olds, so their chances of getting breast cancer are not very large, but more and more young people are turning up with it," she added.

The American Cancer Society recommends that women begin to do breast self-exams starting in their 20s and get clinical exams every three years in their 20s and 30s.

Students can take advantage of the Student Health Center's services by making an appointment, or coming on a walk-in basis. Students are required to present a student identification card, and their current registration receipt. Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday. Wednesdays are from 8:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Fridays.




GRACIELA SALGADO / VALLEY STAR

**BE AWARE BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE-**Sonia Nodal, left, a Valley College nurse, provides students with information on the importance of the early detection of breast cancer.

## ONE WAY OR *ANOTHER*

EACH WEEK, THE VALLEY STAR EXAMINES AN ISSUE FROM TWO SIDES.
THIS WEEK: **UNITED STATES' OFFICIAL RECOGNITION OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE**

# America: Fair Weather Defender

**BY KRISTEN BECKER**
EDITOR IN CHIEF

For 92 years, survivors of the Armenian Genocide and descendants of those who died have had to watch Turkey and much of the rest of the world minimize the deaths and forced relocation of more than a million Armenians.

Now that Congress is finally considering a resolution that would officially call the acts what they were – genocide, President George W. Bush is wrongfully encouraging Congress to continue this country's history of silence on the issue.

The House of Representatives' Foreign Affairs Committee approved House Resolution 106 clearing the way for it to go to a vote in the House where it has 211 sponsors (out of 435 members). If approved by the House and Senate, the bill would finally require the president "to accurately characterize the systematic and deliberate annihilation of 1,500,000 Armenians as genocide."

According to the United Nation's 1948 Convention on Genocide, the actions that constitute a genocide include "killing members of a [national, ethic, racial or religious group]; causing serious bodily or mental harm . . . conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part."

Rep. Brad Sherman (D-Sherman Oaks) explained his support for the legislation, saying, "We cannot provide genocide denial as one of the perks of friendship with the United States."

The House's resolution says, "The Armenian Genocide was conceived and carried out by the Ottoman Empire from 1915 to 1923, resulting in the deportation of nearly 2,000,000 Armenians, of whom 1,500,000 men, women, and children were killed, 500,000 survivors were expelled from their homes, and which succeeded in the elimination of the over 2,500-year presence of Armenians in their historic homeland."

After the House Foreign Affairs Committee approved the legislation, Bush said that although Americans "regret the tragic suffering of the Armenian people," the "resolution is not the right response to these mass killings."

The issue goes far beyond what the Ottomans did to Armenians living in Turkey in 1915. The United States has long held itself to be the defender of freedom around the world, yet we have hypocritically refused to recognize this grievous human rights abuse.

Unfortunately, Bush is not the only U.S. president to feel this way. In 2000, a similar resolution was denied a vote in the House at the request of then-President Bill Clinton.

The United States is vocal in condemning other nations when it suits its interests, yet when our friends commit atrocities, we remain willfully ignorant.

COURTESY OF PARANDZEM GRIGORYAN

# Political Reality Trumps Morality

**BY JAMES BENNET**
STAFF WRITER

In a war zone, the high ground is more dangerous than the trenches. The proposed U.S. resolution to declare the killings of 1.5 million Armenians during the World War I era "Genocide" is on the moral high ground, but the plateau is a perilous place. Passed by the House Foreign Affairs committee, the bill has already garnered reprisal from Ankara, the Turkish capitol. Turkish president Abdullah Gul condemned the committee's passage of the bill in a statement released earlier this month, "Unfortunately, some politicians in the United States have once again sacrificed important matters to petty domestic politics in spite of calls to common sense."

Ankara has consistently refused to term the killings genocide, asserting that appellation is best left to historians. Moreover, the killings are a sensitive topic for the leadership and proletariat of Turkey, a key democratic ally in Asia. According to the State Department 70 percent of Iraq-bound U.S. air cargo hits the tarmac in Turkey; furthermore, 30 percent of the petrol used by U.S. forces in Iraq comes from Turkey.

Passing the Armenian Genocide recognition bill is a direct affront on Turkey's social and political ego. Turkish authorities denounced the resolution's passage in a statement published by The Washington Post, "The committee's approval of this resolution was an irresponsible move, which at a greatly sensitive time will make relations with a friend and ally … more difficult." Yusuf Kani of the Turkish Daily News considered Ankara's retribution, "Now, what do we have in the cards? Denying over flight permission to U.S. military planes. Declare an embargo on U.S. companies in defense industry tenders. Refuse the U.S. the right to use Incirlik Air Base ... Refuse the U.S. use of Turkish territory for logistical support." The U.S. can't control what Turkey does, but we can control what we do; and in this case our actions strongly influence those of Turkey. "Support our troops."

We denounce genocide because we value life. Growing our relationship with Turkey is a boon to the Middle East. Turkey needs our help and guidance; it is our responsibility to advise, assist, and possibly dissuade Turkey from a large-scale invasion of Iraq in pursuit of the Kurdistan Worker's Party, or PKK rebels it has been pursuing since 1984. The immanent danger of amplified conflict in the Middle East is a more pressing matter than the nomenclature of atrocity.

Dennis MacShane, former Minister of the State of Europe hit the nail on the head when he asked "Turkey itself has got one foot in Europe and one foot in Asia. The question is do we want it to live under European norms and laws or tell it go off and imitate the worst performances of its neighbors?" Humanity can't take more violence, Turkey needs our partnership and support, we cannot afford to alienate them over semantics.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

# *Trying to Stay on Valley's Track*

We thought the good ol' Valley Community College dirt track would be there to run, walk and jog at our convenience.

After months of renovations with funds from Propositions A/AA, thanks to our tax-paying voters, the project was completed. The Valley College Community Education/Extension [program] is offering a new recreational walk/run activity on its new state-of-the-art track.

The hours are somewhat limited from 6 a.m. to 8 a.m. Monday through Friday and Saturday from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. The more people who show up, the better chance we have of the college extending the hours.

Let's uphold the little community that signifies what Valley College stands for!

Carl Acosta (student)

# And Now for the News - Comedy Central Style

**BY ASTRID SEIPELT**
STAFF WRITER

When I turn on my television to see what is happening in the world, its not Fox or CNN I flip to, it's the channel that no news should ever come from – Comedy Central.

To some, it makes no sense to get news from a channel that relies on foul-mouthed cartoons to attract audiences, but programs such as The Daily Show with Jon Stewart and The Colbert Report are not-so-quietly drawing audiences away from the likes of O'Reilly, Hannity and Colmes, and getting them to laugh along the way.

There is a growing crowd of young Americans who rely on information from these two pop culture phenomena. According to a 2006 survey by Medialifemagazine.com, 46 percent of students watch satirical news programs. A college friend of mine has remarked several times that he hates it when Colbert and Stewart go on break, because he feels like he doesn't get any news while they are off air.

For me, it's because they present current affairs in such a way that I can understand it, and feature stories that I want to hear. The average 20 year old doesn't want to know how the Dow Jones is faring; we want to know why the President vetoed a bill that would improve child health care, and put the money to the troop surge in Iraq instead. They also feature nightly political and cultural guests, where viewers can see the 'softer' side of their chosen political candidate or favorite author. The way they present "truthiness" isn't just about comedy to Messrs. Colbert and Stewart, it's about letting the public know about the things that may have slipped under their radar. As Colbert once said "I won't read the news to you. . .I'll feel the news at you!"

And if anyone wants to attack these programs credibility, both The Daily Show and The Colbert Report have won numerous awards for their coverage of current events. This should put wary minds at ease.

With almost half of young people tuning into these alternative news sources it might be a good idea to start doing the same. With its popularity sure to rise, you are sure to be missing out on the news coverage of the future, if you don't tune in.

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION / COMEDY CENTRAL / PAUL OLDEN / VALLEY STAR

**IN IT TO WIN IT-** After announcing his intention to run for president, commentator Stephen Colbert and Comedy Central partner Jon Stewart (on right in insert), will continue to attract viewers.

## CAMPUS View

**How do *you* get your news?**

photos by Paul Olden

*"I watch the news on TV, mostly Fox 11 or NBC. It's easier to understand than the newspaper."*

*-Xavier Angulo, film*

*"Internet and TV. When I have nothing else to do, I just check the news on the Internet. It's easy to get to."*

*-Tagoui Kilimdjian, undecided*

*"Internet. When I'm at work I get on the Internet and I get world news from Yahoo."*

*- Azaiv Pivazyan, psychology*

*"Yahoo.com. I like the way it's organized. It gives you the most important news at the top of the page."*

*- Romulo Magallanes, mechanical engineering*

# Virginia Tech Shooting Prompts a New Gun-Control Bill

**BY MARISSA MEYER**
STAFF WRITER

The House of Representatives passed what could become the first major federal gun control law in over a decade, spurred by the Virginia Tech campus killings and supported by the National Rifle Association.

The Virginia Tech shooting was scary and devastating. I couldn't imagine that happening at Valley College and I don't want to. This bill will help all students feel safer on their campus.

The bill would improve state reporting to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System to stop gun purchases by criminals and those who have been determined as mentally ill.

The measure would require states to automate their lists of convicted criminals and the mentally ill who are prohibited under a 1968 law from buying firearms, and report those lists to the FBI's National Instant Criminal Background Check System, or NICS.

"As the Virginia Tech shooting reminded us, there is an urgent national need to improve the background check system to keep guns out of the hands of those barred from buying them," House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said.

Seung-Hui Cho, who in April killed 32 students and faculty at Virginia Tech before taking his own life, had been ordered to undergo outpatient mental health treatment and should have been barred from buying the two guns he used in the rampage. But the state of Virginia never forwarded this information to the national background check system.

Students don't want people like Cho to get a hold of a gun and bring it on campus. We shouldn't fear for our lives while at school. This bill is a good idea and should take affect for the safety of everyone's lives.

If it moves through the Senate and is signed into law by the president, the bill would be the most important gun control act since 1994 when Congress prohibited juveniles from possessing or selling handguns.

# VALLEY LIFE

## WEDNESDAY TO TUESDAY

**Top 5 Stories Online @ lavalleystar.com**

"Spreading the Gospel of Colber" by Kristen Becker

"Radiohead Rainbows of Change" By Jonathan Gibby

"A Look at Camps Security" By Astrid Seipelt

"The Search for the Great Pumpkin" By Brad Taylor

"Top 5: Car Crash TV" By Astrid Seipelt

**What's New Online @ lavalleystar.com**

"Daniel Pearl Concert" By Scott Mitchell

"Email Etiquette" By Eli Beltran

"College Fair" By Brad Taylor

"How Green Was My Valley" By Brad Taylor

**New CD Releases:**

Avenged Sevenfold- Avenged Sevenfold

Backstreet Boys- Unbreakable

Chris Brown- Exclusive

David Byrne- The Knee Plays

Duran Duran- Red Carpet Massacre

The Eagles- Long Road Out of Eden

Mario- Go

Saves the Day- Under the Boards

Britney Spears- Blackout

**New Theatre Releases:**

Dan in Real Life
Steve Carrell, Dane Cook

**Don't forget to YouTube:**

Fenway Pizza

Panda Sneeze

Spartan Chipmunk Remix

Barney Crank That

**Think Transfer!**

Fall 2008 UC and CSU priority transer application deadline is November 30. Apply on line at www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply or www.csumentor.edu

Guarantee your admission to a UC by participating in a UC Transfer Admission Guarantee Program. For program information, qualifications and applications visit the Career/Transfer Center, Adm. 126, or call (818) 947-2646. All events held in the Career/Transfer Center

Wednesday, October. 24

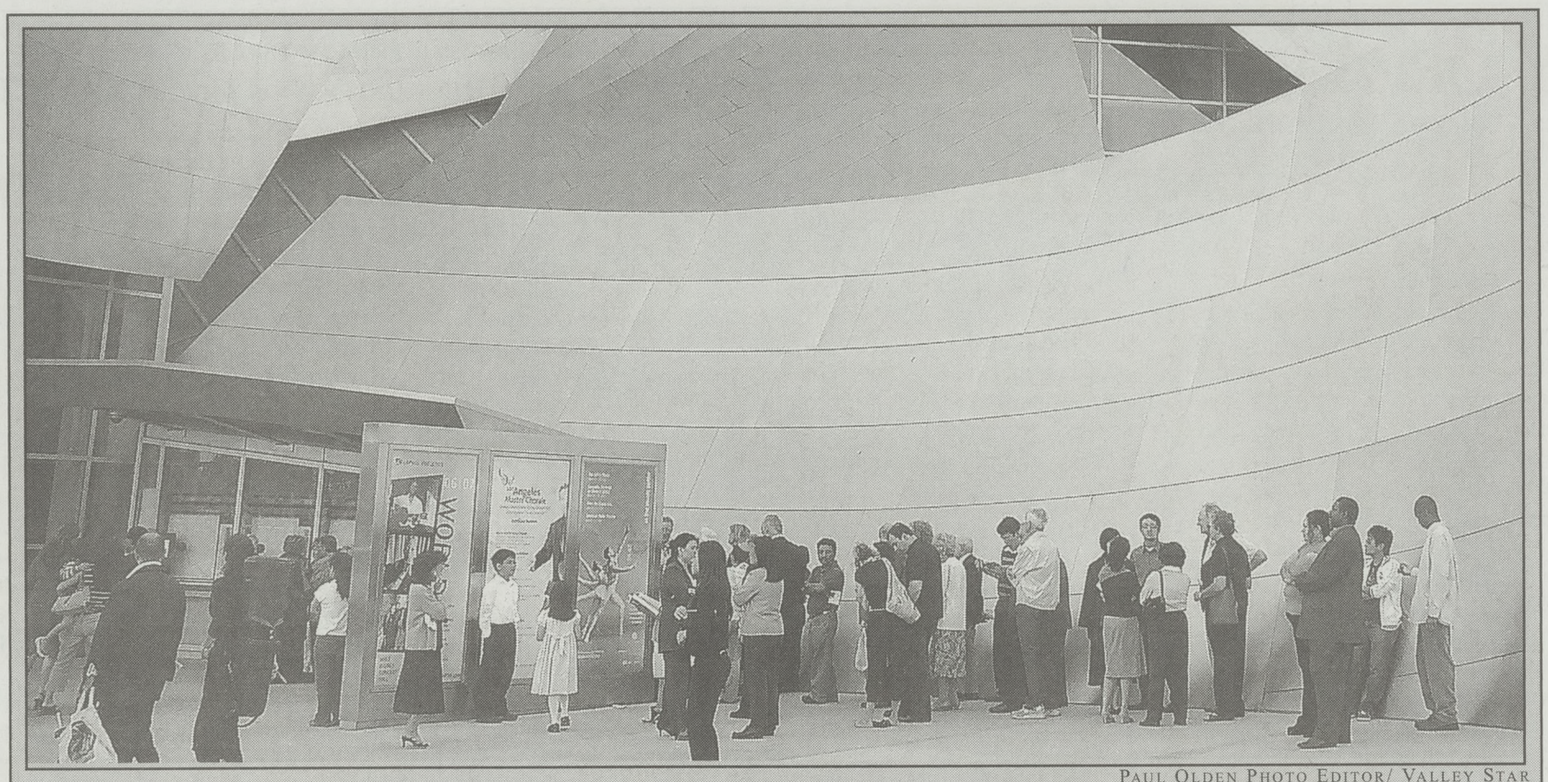
Undecided Major/Career Workshop 5:30-6:30
Thursday, October 25
UC Irvine Rep 10-2
UC Santa Barbara Rep 10-1
Undecided Major/Career Workshop 1-2

Monday, October 29

College Application Workshop 5:30-6:30

Tuesday, October 30

CSU Northridge Information Fair 10-1 and 5-7 Monarch Square
CSU Northridge Application Workshop 1-2
College Application Personal Statement Workshop 1-2:30
Humanities 102



PAUL OLDEN PHOTO EDITOR/ VALLEY STAR

**COMMAND PERFORMANCE-**Music fans wait to enter the Walt Disney Concert Hall in downtown Los Angeles.

# *Traveling on a $20 Budget*

**BY ELI BELTRAN**
STAFF WRITER

If you are broke like me, not willing to spend more than $20 on that first date or that friend, who never seems to have money, this is for you. With this as my inspiration, I have done some research to compile a list of my top five places to visit under $20- minus gas- where you will certainly get more than your money's worth.

The Getty Center- Did you know that the word museum comes from the Greek word "mouseion," a place that was devoted to the Greek goddesses of art? If you didn't, head to The Getty and witness their ongoing Classical Connections exhibition. It explores the influence of ancient art in our present. When you are finished, take a look at the museum's painting collection that houses such works as "Irises" by Vincent Van Gogh and Monet's "Wheatstacks." You can find the museum at 1200 Getty Center Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90049. Admission is free and parking is only $8. Find more information at getty.edu.

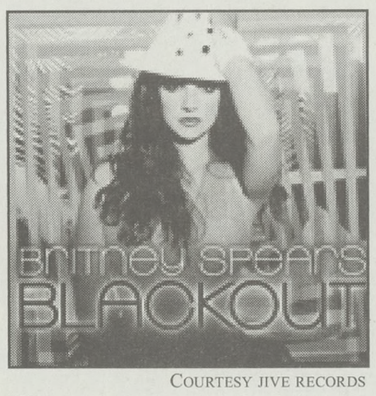
Walt Disney Concert Hall- Designed by the world-renowned architect Frank Gehry, is more than just a place to hear music. It's a piece of art. Guided or self-guided audio tours of the building are available to the public. These tours take audiences through much of the metallic building, with the exclusion of the auditorium. They are free, but groups of more than 15 people need to pay $15 per person. The Concert Hall is at 111 South Grand Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90012 and tour days vary, so go to musiccenter.org for more information.

Diddy Reise Cookies- Cure your sugar fix, even at 1 a.m. Diddy Reise offers patrons a menu filled with more than 10 kinds of cookies and 12 ice cream flavors for customers to choose from. They can create their own versions of cookie-ice-scream sandwiches for only $1.25, including tax. You might think that the quality of the made-fresh-in-the-store cookies would shoot the price through the roof, but a single cookie goes for 35 cents and a dozen costs only $3.75. With these prices, you can afford to feed all those hungry and financially deficient friends of yours. Diddy Reise Cookies is located at 926 Broxton Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90024.

Silent Movie Theatre- Since its opening in 1942, the theatre has kept alive the images of Charlie Chaplin, Fatty Arbuckle, and other silver- screen idols. After a brief closure in 1997, following the murder of the former owner inside the theatre, it was purchased in 1999 and today continues to be the only silent-film cinema in the United States. Although the theatre is undergoing renovations, it will reopen Oct. 25 with 11 Halloween-themed movies. Some of the films include "Nightmare Alley" and "The creature with the Atom Brain." The theatre is located at 611 N. Fairfax Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90036. Tickets are $10 and can be ordered online at silentmovietheatre.com.

The Griffith Observatory- Did you miss the Big Bang? If you would like to re-live it or experience it for the first time, then visit the recently renovated Observatory. The hourly "Centered in the Universe" show in the Samuel Oschin Planetarium takes audiences on a journey from Egypt to the front lawn of the Observatory, featuring astronomers who forever changed our perception of the cosmos. Admission is free, but visitors are not allowed to drive up to the Observatory, so reservations for a shuttle bus are required and cost $8 for adults. "Centered in the Universe" is a separate event and tickets are sold inside the Observatory for $7 for adults. The Griffith Observatory is on 2800 East Observatory Road. Los Angeles, CA 90027.

**CD Review**




COURTESY JIVE RECORDS

# Spears Restarts With "Blackout"

**BY BRAD TAYLOR**
OPINION EDITOR

"It's Britney, bitch." Yes it is and pop music's favorite train wreck is back and in case you forgot she actually does sing and with her new album "Blackout" she is giving us more of the Spears we want.

The album's release date has been pushed up from Nov. 13th to Oct. 30th, due to internet leaks, damage control from her recent custody battles and capitalizing on the breakout success of her recent single. "Gimme More" currently number one on iTunes, recently jumped from number 87 to number three on "Billboard's Hot 100 Singles." In fact, "Gimme More" is Spears' biggest hit since her first single "Baby One More Time" reached number one in 1998.

"Gimme More," is just a sample of the beat driven album's potential. "Cold as Fire" takes us back with a retro smash that is simple and seems to pay homage to Madonna before she became British; the vocal distorting "Radar" with its blips and bleeps tells what happens when a girl finds the boy she wants.

"Heaven on Earth" stands out as a sure fire club hit and radio favorite with Britney's trademark breathy vocals and catchy Donna Summer style melody. No vocal gymnastics or hip-hop guest stars are needed to elevate this song to become a Brit classic.

Listeners looking for drama about Mr. Federline should wait for his next album, because Ms. Spears doesn't waste much time wallowing in self-pity with her lyrics. This may be where Spears misses a chance to show some lyrical growth and really put herself out there for a public that may want to hear some sorrow and regret about her last few turbulent years. But Spears, unlike some other artists, knows her vocal range and may just be saving listeners from something truly painful, another ballad.

Britney has always had one major talent, and that is choosing the right producers who know how to work with her limited range. This time around she employs the "Next Big Thing" in Timbaland's protégé, Nate "Danja" Hills to elevate the project with a new energy that connects each track. His influence on "Gimme More" seems to excavate material in the same vein as ex-Brit boy toy Justin Timberlake.

It would seem as if Britney's career might not be as dead as the press would have predicted with her recent MTV fiasco. She probably won't win any "Mother of the Year" awards but her album is hot. In a business full of Fergies, Rihannas, and Gwens there is still only one Britney and that is more than enough.

**Movie Review**

# Afflecks Nuture "Baby"

**BY JOSH SPENCE**
VALLEY LIFE EDITOR

Co-written and directed by Ben Affleck, "Gone Baby Gone" is a gripping crime thriller that artistically surpasses anything he has done since "Dogma."

A Dorchester family in search of a missing girl hires private investigator Patrick Kenzie (Casey Affleck) after local authorities have their hands full with the investigation and the media circus surrounding it. While this is the simple veneer of the storyline, Affleck and co-writers Aaron Stockard and Dennis Lehane comment on Catholic guilt, preconceived notions of right and wrong, repeated mistakes, and false redemption.

The subject matter is heavy but the film is refreshing in that Affleck and Stockard are able to deliver their messages without crushing the soapbox they're standing on.

One might be tempted to frown on the casting nepotism, but the younger Affleck is perfect as the lead. Instead of playing his character as a gun toting, stop for nothing, succeed at all costs, private investigator stereotype; Affleck plays the part with self- awareness and doubt.

It adds considerable depth to his role while prompting the audience to think about its own ethics. This is what makes the film compelling.

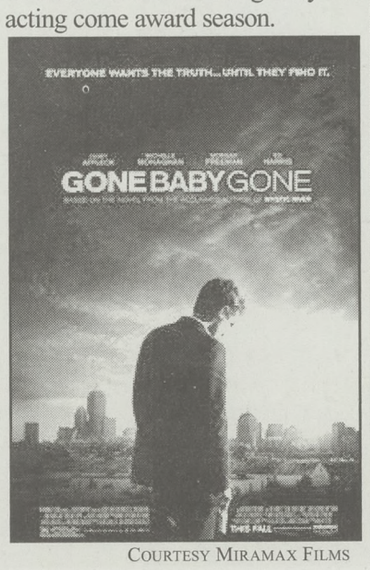
While Affleck's performance is noteworthy, Ed Harris steals the show, giving an unhinged, nomination-worthy performance as jilted vigilante cop Remy Bressant.

Morgan Freeman and Michelle Monaghan also star; it may not be Freeman's finest performance, it's still however exceptional. Monaghan does attempt to step away from her "Girl Next Door" image she's known for, but she will need larger dramatic roles to show her acting ability.

Affleck as a director is not exactly reinventing the wheel. With a compelling story and inspired acting he doesn't need to. Understanding that he doesn't need millions of jump cuts to make scenes work, Affleck employs two shots to show the disparity of emotion and ethics that plagues each character. The camera's eye is so brutal it makes the viewer want to flinch.

Credit should also be given for the authenticity of the slang and the surroundings of the film. It's this setting that Affleck uses to convey not only how tragic the story is, but how common it is for drugs and crime to completely take over a city and its residents.

"Gone Baby Gone" is a solid film equal in action and analysis. It fits in a variety of genres that viewers can appreciate and should be remembered for its strong story and acting come award season.




COURTESY MIRAMAX FILMS

# Top 5: Horror Flicks

**Movies So Bad, They're Scary.**

**BY BRAD TAYLOR**
ONLINE EDITOR

Halloween is right around the corner and every magazine and Web site are listing their top 5 horror films, but I decided that it would be better to give you all a list of the most under-rated horror flicks for your morbid viewing pleasure.

Sure you could see "Halloween" for the 10th time or try and scare your friends with "The Exorcist" again, but if you really want them to wet their pants with terror or unintentional laughter, it is time to dig deeper into the grave to find some horror that isn't on Elm Street.

5-"Suspiria" (1977)

Italian director Dario Argento's masterpiece is one messed up film. A coven of witches run a ballet school with murders aplenty. The tagline to the movie: "The only thing more terrifying than the last 12 minutes of this film are the first 92" is pretty apt when it comes to this acid trip of a horror film. For those not used to Italian horror, this movie will freak you out.

4-"Henry: Portrait of a Serial Killer" (1986)

John McNaughton directed this movie about real-life serial killer Henry Lee Lucas. Unlike fluff films like "Silence of the Lambs," "Henry" takes a terrifying non-biased look into the psyche of a very troubled killer. The film is raw and unflinching. Twenty years later, this movie still manages to disturb most audiences.

3-"Night of the Comet" (1984)

Thom Eberhart's 80s horror/ sci-fi bomb shows us what happens when a comet passes too close to Earth and leaves only two Valley Girls and a whole mess of zombies. "Comet" mixes equal parts "Omega Man" and "Valley Girl" to create a surprisingly entertaining movie that pays tribute to everything that came before it. If you love "Shaun of the Dead," then you will really die for the original romantic zombie comedy.

2-"Monster Squad" (1987)

Directed by Fred Dekker, this cult classic is "Goonies" meets the Universal Monsters. And even though it is heavy on kids, it is also wildly entertaining and full of some good old-fashioned scares that are pretty rare these days. The film is finally on DVD after a 15-year wait and answers the age-old question of whether or not the Wolfman has nards.

1-"Night of the Creeps" (1986)

This is another Fred Dekker classic that combines horror and comedy along with slug aliens, zombies and frat boys. Like "Night of the Comet," this film is an homage to the great horror/sci-fi films of yesterday, but any description fails to do it justice. This flick is a bloody gem, the kind of movie you find on late-night cable that makes it almost impossible to change the channel. It is the 80s gone totally wrong for all the right reasons.

## LAVC SCORES

**FOOTBALL**
October 20 vs.Ventura Pirates
(Homecoming)
16-15 (L)
2-5, 2-3

**WOMENS WATER POLO**
Citrus College Tournament October 12 & 13
vs. Fullerton
13-1(L)
1-13, 0-2
vs. Chaffey
16-5 (L) 1-14, 0-2
vs. El Camino
3-0(L) 1-15, 0-2
vs. Cerritos
15-6(L)
1-16, 0-2
October 17 vs. Citrus College
15-1(L)
1-17, 0-3

**MENS WATER POLO**
October 17 vs. Citrus
12-9(W)
7-8, 2-1

**Golden West Tournament**
October 19-20
vs. American River
16-14(W)
8-8, 2-1
vs. Golden West
14-5(L)
8-9, 2-1
vs. Cuesta
11-11(TIE)
9-9, 2-1
vs.Ventura
17-14(L)
9-10, 2-1

**WOMENS SOCCER**
October 16 vs. Mission
2-1(L)
2-11-1, 0-10, 0-7
October 19 vs. Pierce
4-0(L)
2-12, 0-11, 0-8

## LAVC SCHEDULE

**Monarchs Football**
October 27 - 7:00
vs Glendale Vaqueros
@ Glendale

**November 3 - 7:00**
vs Santa Monica Corsairs
@ Valley

**November 10 - 4:00**
vs Pierce Brahmas
@ Pierce

Season Record: 2-3

**Cross Country**
October 23 - 3:00
WSC Finals
@ Moorpark College

**November 3 - 10:00**
So. Cal Prelims
@ Irvine

**November 16/17 - 10:00**
State Finals
@Fresno

**Monarch Basketball**
Oct. 27 – TBA (First Game!)
vs Irvine Valley Jamboree
@ Irvine

**Nov. 8-10 - TBA**
Ventura Tournament
@ Ventura

**Nov. 16-18 - TBA**
Consumnes River Tournament
@ Sacramento

**Monarch Water Polo**
(Gentlemen)
Oct. 24 - 3:00
vs Cuesta*
@ Cuesta

**Nov. 2-3 – TBA**
WSC Championship
@ Santa Monica

**Nov. 9-10 - TBA**
So. Cal. Championship
@ Golden West

**Nov. 16-17 - TBA**
State Championship
@ Fresno

**Second Record: 2-1**

**Monarch Water Polo (Ladies)**

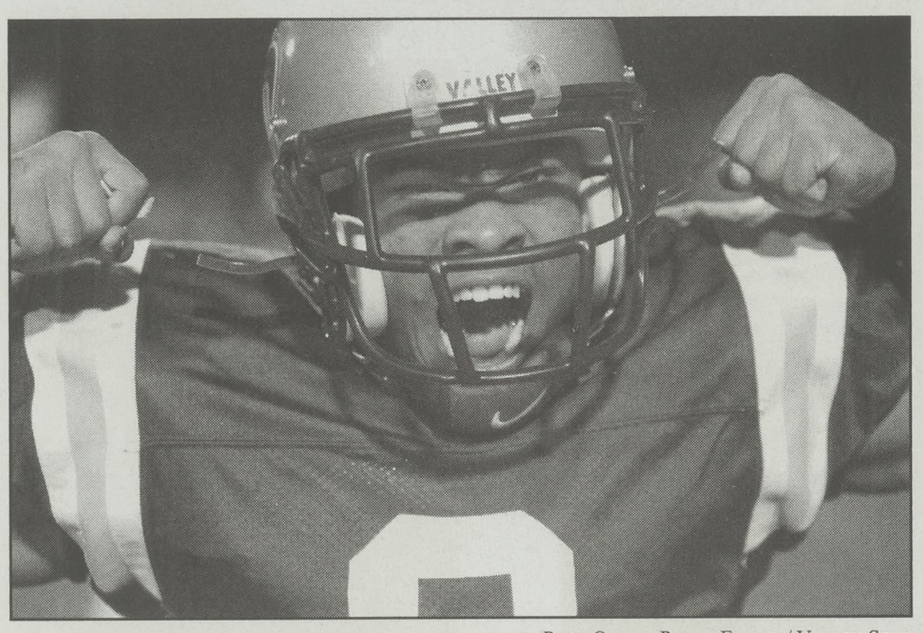
**October 24 - 4:15**
vs Cuesta College
@ Cuesta

**October 26 - TBA**
Pasadena Mini Tournament
@ Pasadena

Season Record: 0-3

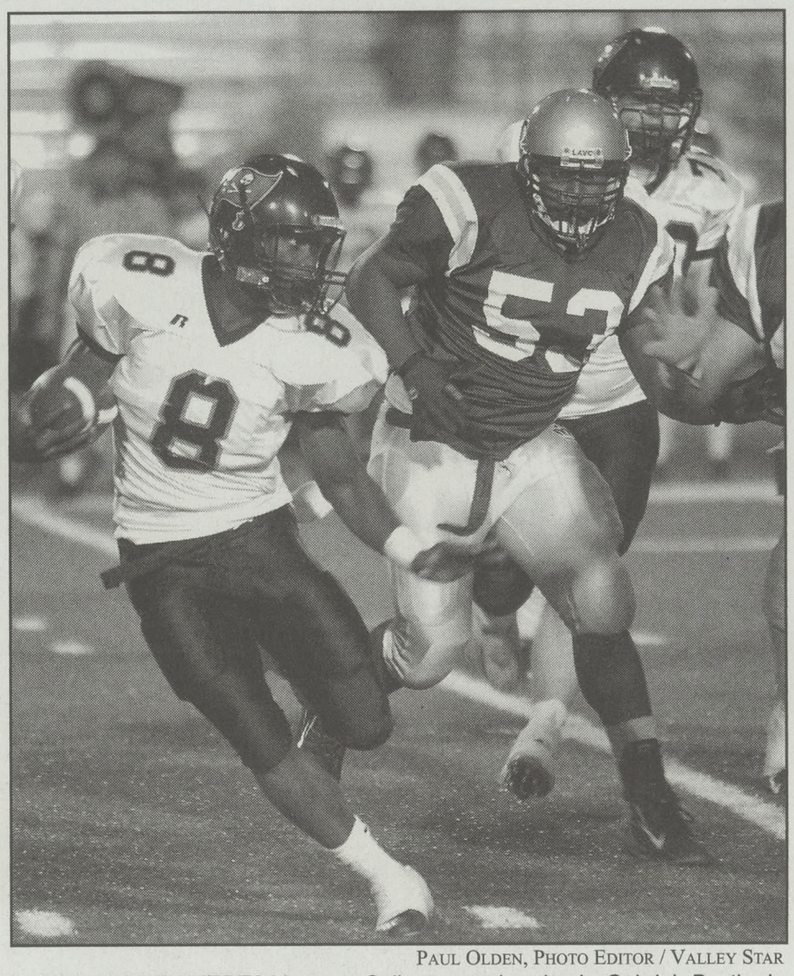
WSC FOOTBALL

# Valley Drops Homecoming by a Foot



PAUL OLDEN, PHOTO EDITOR / VALLEY STAR

**YEAH!-**Valley College defensive back Kenvin Benford strikes a powerful pose after recovering a fourth quarter onside kick against Ventura College last Saturday at Monarch Stadium. The Monarchs' scored a touchdown shortly after the Benford play, but still lost, 16-**15.**



PAUL OLDEN, PHOTO EDITOR / VALLEY STAR

**GOING SOMEWHERE?-**Ventura College running back Gabriel Bostic is being chased by Valley College defensive lineman DeAndre Bowman during last Saturday's Homecoming football game at Monarch Stadium. The visiting Pirates-who were held scoreless in the second half of the game- won 16-15.

BY PAUL OLDEN
PHOTO EDITOR

In football, the kick that follows most touchdowns is a formality. Hardly noticed really ... until you miss one.

And it's a glaring shortcoming if you miss two.

That was the case for Valley College in a 16-15 Homecoming loss at Monarch Stadium to Ventura College on Saturday.

Down 16-3 from the 8:39 mark of the second quarter, the Monarchs made some adjustments to free up its running game and made a stirring comeback attempt, which included an onside kick.

Running back Anthony Dickson, who gained 104 yards on 25 carries, scored twice on short runs late in the fourth quarter to get the Monarchs back in the game. Dickson's 3-yard run into the end zone with 2:24 to go brought the Monarchs within one point of tying the game at 16-all. But the point-after attempt failed.

As coach Jimmy Sims watched in shock from the sidelines, the snap from center to holder Justin Grantin was off-line and to his right.

"[Grantin] didn't get a great handle and he missed it," Sims said.

Grantin and kicker Paul Landon recovered the muffed ball.

The result of the ensuing kickoff by the Monarchs was unexpected as well and lit the wrong kind of fire under the coaching staff.

After Valley recovered a successful onside kick a few minutes earlier following Dickson's first fourth quarter touchdown that made the score, 16-9, Landon apparently thought another onside kick after the second Dickson touchdown was a good idea.

There was a slight problem with that.

According to coach Jimmy Sims, Landon made that decision on his own and the rest of the team was caught unaware and out of position to recover such a kick.

"I'm very upset about it," Sims said. "We [the coaching staff] did not tell him to do that. We'll talk to him and get the facts."

The Pirates took the ball near mid-field with 2:20 to go in the game and ran out the clock to improve their overall record to 4-3 and 3-1 in the Western State Conference.

The conventional football thinking holds that the Monarchs should have kicked the ball as deep as possible then the Pirates might have been under greater pressure to take care of the ball and not give Valley one last shot to score.

Valley College is now 2-5 overall and 2-3 in the WSC.

The visiting Pirates might have buried the Monarchs much earlier in the game had it not been for quarterback Lee Mondol overthrowing two different receivers on long pass plays which doubtless would have resulted in easy touchdowns on torched Valley defenders.

Overall, the defense played fairly well. The Monarchs pitched a second-half shutout. The offense, until the late in the game, still couldn't put points on the score board.

The game started on the windy night with both teams looking sloppy.

Turnovers resulted on three of the first four possessions for both teams.

The first quarter ended in a 3-all tie. But by halftime, short touchdown runs by freshmen Michael Lee and Gabriel Bostic gave Ventura a 16-3 lead.

The third quarter was scoreless. Both teams stuck to the running game because the high winds prevented any reliable passing attacks. Between the two teams, only one pass was attempted in the quarter. Ventura still managed 20 passes in the game with nine completions.

The Valley College passing attack wasn't a factor with just three completions out of nine attempts the entire game.

Late in the fourth quarter Ventura had a 95-yard pass interception return by linebacker Scott Garner nullified due to a roughing-the-passer penalty.

The Monarchs hit the road Saturday, October 27, at Glendale College. Kickoff is 7pm.

PAUL OLDEN, PHOTO EDITOR / VALLEY STAR

**GETTING IN THE SPIRIT-**Valley College student Luis Alverez, 20, has his face painted in school colors by Sherri Rodriguez, associate dean of student services, before last Saturday's Homecoming football game at Monarch Stadium. Valley lost to Ventura, 16-15.

# Mixed Results for Valley Water Polo at Citrus

BY JAMES BENNETT
STAFF WRITER

The Citrus College Aquatics Center became a proving ground for Valley College's water polo teams Wednesday. The Monarchs faced the struggling Fighting Owls in two shockingly different games. The men triumphed, winning 12 - 9 against Citrus while the ladies suffered a devastating loss of 16 – 1. The pool was a dangerous place for the Monarchs; not only for fear of the golf balls periodically landing in the pool from the adjacent driving range, but due to the ferocity of play.

The male Monarchs proved their prowess in the pool, scoring two goals in the first moments. However, the Owls, with their eyes so large, saw it coming and fought back with tenacity finishing off the quarter down by 1. The Owls unfurled their feathers in the second period when they slammed two uncontested goals through Valley's goal posts, leaving the Monarchs trapped like a rat down by 1 at the half.

With a deafening roar, the Monarchs stormed into the third period obliterating the Owls by scoring five straight goals. They left nothing behind but a swirling mass of feathers. With their spirits broken, the Owls failed to revitalize their offence, falling off the perch of their 3-game winning streak with a final score of 12 – 9.

The ladies of Valley found themselves purring like kittens instead of roaring like lions in their Inland Empire expedition. Citrus crushed the Monarchs in virtually every aspect of the game, putting 3 shots on goal for every Valley attempt. From the onset of the game, it was apparent that the Monarchs were the Owls' prey, with Citrus effortlessly scoring 7 points in the first quarter of the game. Citrus' defense did an excellent job of souring the Monarchs offensive game throughout the match, stealing the vast majority of offensive attempts at or near the pool's halfway marker. Fighting Owl Jenn Marshal put 9 points on the board for Citrus, whereas Patty Lerma, Valley's leading scorer only managed to sink 1. The onslaught continued relentlessly from the first whistle to the last, leaving the Monarchs licking their wounds after suffering a 17 – 1 loss.

Neither of these games surprised the savvy spectator. Citrus men are doing poorly in the pool this season with a 1-3 record in conference games compared to the Valley men, are 2-1 in conference games.

When looking at the statistics for Valley's ladies' water polo this season the massive score discrepancy seen at the Citrus game makes a lot of sense: The Citrus girls are 2-2 in conference games while the Monarchs are 0-3. Despite the fact that they're in the same league, it's clear that, at least for the girls, Citrus is out of their league.

# Classical Guitar 101

A veteran teacher and novice students explore the age-old instrument at Valley College

IT START WITH THE HANDS-You're taught the proper finger positions. Curl the knuckles as you make your way up and down the neck of the guitar. The nylon strings were introduced in the 1940's. Professional players change strings everyday, but they last a lot longer for beginners.

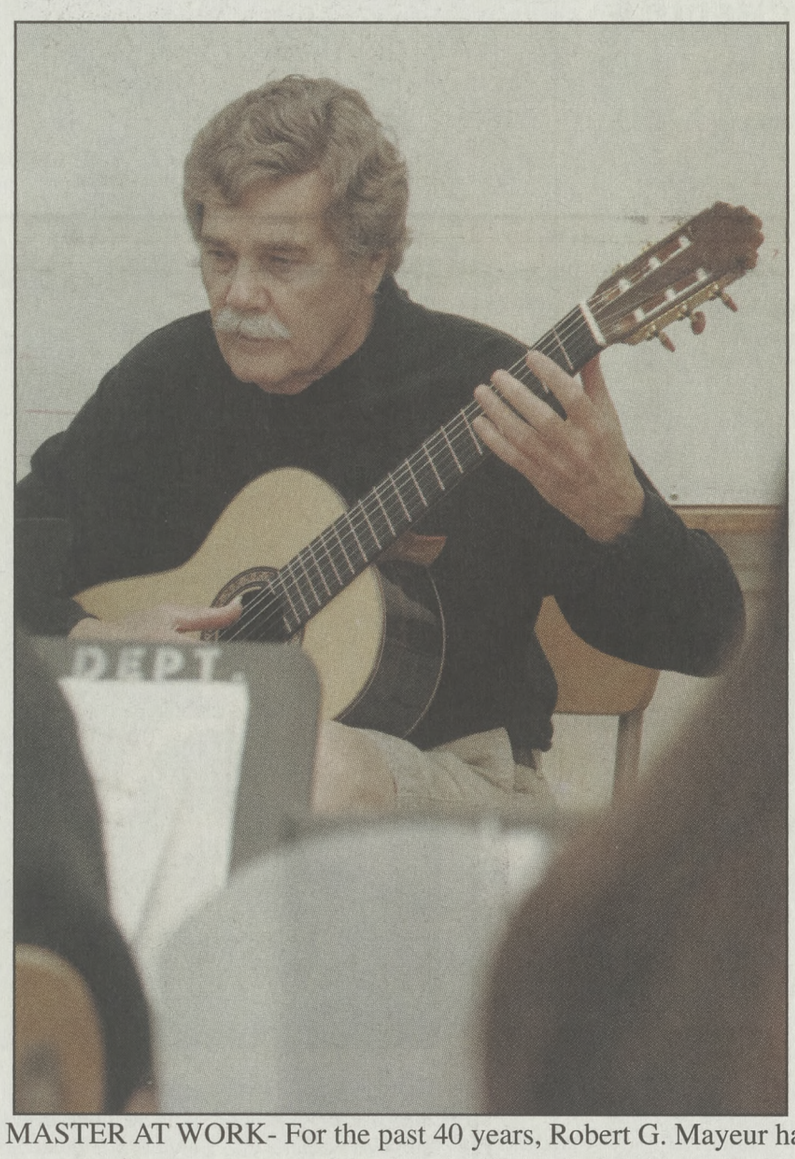
TOUGH AS NAILS- In order to get the most out of your strings and the resonance of the guitar body, your playing-hand fingernails need to be shaped properly. Valley College Music major student Kelvin McKay-Hill, 21, uses a common liquid strengthener to keep the nails on his playing hand tough. Some players use Krazy Glue.

Photos and text by Paul Olden

Students are drawn to the classical guitar for a variety of reasons. Some love the sound of the nylon strings being plucked while others seek refuge from the cacophony of the electric guitar. Still others simply want to try something different.

The basics of the instrument are taught at Valley by Robert Mayeur, a long-time practitioner of the art. He has been a faculty member of the music department since 1979.

To play classical, you don't just grab a guitar and play. There are a few things to keep in mind as you learn.




THE MASTER AT WORK- For the past 40 years, Robert G. Mayeur has been active as a teacher, composer and performer of classical guitar in the Los Angeles area. Mayeur has been a faculty member of the Music department at Valley College since 1979. Mayeur retired in June, but came back to teach the beginning classical guitar class.

ROOM TO GROW-While the students in the beginning classical guitar are still learning to play, other students from Robert Mayeur's classes have receieved schlorships in guitar performance from USC, UCLA, Cal Sate Northridge and the San Francisco Conservatory.

A STEP UP-In order to play the classical guitar properly, one foot has to be elevated. This leads to the correct playing posture. Putting your foot on a couple of wood blocks works ... but there are metal foot stands that look better in concert halls around the world.